

50X1-HUM

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY	Hungary	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Economic Conditions	DATE DISTR.	19 October 1953
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THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.
(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Prices in Budapest

Sugar per kg. (Only $\frac{1}{4}$ kg. available)	11.60	Forints
Potatoes	3.20-3.50	"
Rice	22	"
Beef	21	"
Pork	29-32	"
Flour	7-8	"
White bread	10	"
Black bread	2.80	"
Eggs each	2.40	"
Men's suits	1,600-1,800	" made to measure
Overcoats	1,800	"

Household utensils made of aluminum are unobtainable.

2. Livestock.

Foot and mouth disease and shortage of fodder has seriously reduced the numbers of livestock. In Hidegmikl's, a small village, 300 cattle were left out of 800 in 1952 and 600 pigs out of 2,000.

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3. Taxes.

Since 1 April 1953, a new tax has been imposed on bachelors, childless couples, and single women. The rate is about 4 percent of the basic wages. The tax covers the cost of family allowances.

4. Child Allowances.

Child allowances per month are as follows.

	<u>June 1953</u>	<u>Previously</u>
1 child	None	30 Forints
2 children	75 Forints	75 "
3 children	180 "	120 "

A maternity grant of 400 Forints is paid.

5. Peasants.

Peasants are obliged by decree to stay on their kolkhos till the present five year plan is terminated. Produce debts will be cancelled, but only if the peasant fulfills his 1953 quota. As this is practically impossible this promise means very little.

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